

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 21-23, 25, 27-32, and 34 are pending in this application. Claims 21, 27 and 30 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 21-23, 25, 27-32 and 34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shapiro, U.S. Patent No. 5,991,810 and Krishnamurthy et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,578,113. Reconsideration of the rejections in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Independent claims 21 and 30 have been amended to set forth that the communications unit acquires first check information, rather than rewrite information, and that the control unit makes second check information relating to the second copy of original information possessed by the memory section, compares the second check information with the acquired first check information, and requests the first information processing device to transmit the original information when the second check information and the first check information are not the same.

Claim 27 has been amended to include that the communications unit receives a transmit request of check information relating to the copy of original information from another second information processing device connecting to the Internet, and acquires the original information from the first information processing device when the copy of original information relating to the transmit request of the check information is not in the memory section.

According to claim 27, the control section calculates check information of the acquired original information and the communications unit sends the calculated check information to another second information processing device.

As amended, the feature of the independent claims becomes clear with regard to the second information processing device of the invention which is for providing a copy of original information to a user and which communicates with the first information processing device and connects, by way of an access control device, to a local area network and the Internet. The claimed invention provides a system capable of monitoring devices providing services over the Internet and for checking whether a copy of original information in one second information processing device of the system matches another or second copy of the original information held by another second information processing device. This is determined by using check information relating to the copies of original information, as now clearly recited in the claims.

Shapiro discloses limiting access to web site information stored on a proxy cache sever within a local area network or intranet (*see*, column 1, lines 60-62). A system administrator pre-programs the parameters of the access control list based on the Internet access control policies. Access is permitted or denied on the basis of the particular access limits associated with the requesting client and the parameters of the requested site. Accordingly, Shapiro discloses a conventional proxy server that connects with a WWW Server in place of the user computer, to transmit data acquired from WWW Server to the user, and preserve it temporarily.

In the present invention, the second information processing device of the present invention, where the copy of information on a WWW Server is maintained beforehand,

provides service (information) upon demand of the user. That is, as claimed, the second information processing device connects to the Internet and communicates with the first information processing device. However, the first information processing device connects to a local area network by way of an access control device for controlling connections with the local area network and the Internet. As a result, the original information is not directly accessed by the user through the Internet, but rather the information is provided by the second information processing device(s). This restricts the ability of a user to tamper with the original information, for example, and Shapiro does not disclose this arrangement.

Krishnamurthy discloses, in the context of the Internet and the World Wide Web, a proxy cache that acts as an intermediary between clients and remote web servers. The proxy cache provides frequently requested pages to avoid contacting the server repeatedly for the same page. Whether the cached resource, page or document of the proxy cache is still current is determined by validation using a cache validation request. In particular, according to Krishnamurthy, when a proxy cache has a reason to communicate with a server with regard to a particular resource, the cache piggybacks a list of one or more of the other resources in the cache that are from the same server for which the expiration time is unknown. Thus, the proxy cache requests validation for the first resource as well as other resources which are accessible from the same server.

Krishnamurthy does not acquire first check information relating to a first copy of original information from a (another) second information processing device and make second check information relating to a second copy of original information possessed by the memory

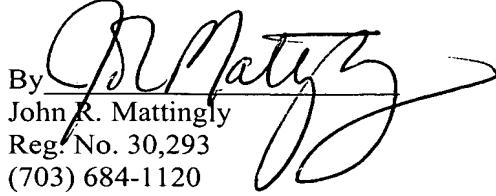
section of an (one) information processing device. Accordingly, Krishnamurthy does not disclose requesting a first information processing device to transmit original information when a condition exists in which the second check information and the first check information are not the same, as claimed by Applicants. In Krishnamurthy, a cache validation check is performed between the resources of the proxy server and the web server, unlike in the claimed invention. Therefore, Krishnamurthy does not disclose or suggest that which is deficient in Shapiro. Accordingly, the combination of Shapiro and Krishnamurthy does not render the invention unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By 
John R. Mattingly
Reg. No. 30,293
(703) 684-1120

JRM/so
Date: January 8, 2007